



## Utah Philatelic Society

Since 1946

P.O. Box 295, Midvale, UT 84047-2950

Winter 2025

### News & Events

#### UTAH PHILATELIC SOCIETY ELECTION RESULTS:

Club members held an election on Dec. 4, 2025, for open Officer positions. Congratulations to the following individuals. These new roles will be effective Jan. 1, 2026:

President: Jack Wall  
Vice-president: Dave Blackhurst  
Treasurer: Stephen Bunker  
Secretary: James DeGooyer



#### MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Remember to contribute your annual membership dues in January for the 2026 calendar year. Thank you.

#### NEXT CLUB MEETING:

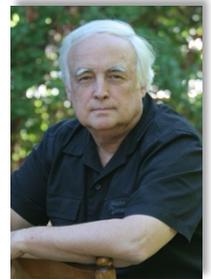
Due to the New Year's holiday, the next Club meeting will be held on Jan. 15, 2026.

#### FEB. STAMP SHOW:

The Winter Stamp Show will be held Feb. 5-6, 2026.  
Note—these dates are Thursday and Friday only.

### President's Corner

Well, this is it! My final message as president of the Utah Philatelic Society. I've completed four terms as president, for a total of eight years. I am more than happy to turn the reins over to a new executive committee, which was elected at our Dec. 4 meeting. You can see the election results under "News & Events," on this page.



Steve Baldridge

The new club officers will each serve a term of two years, while the current general Board members will serve until the end of 2026.

I have sincerely enjoyed the opportunity to serve as president, and I've appreciated the confidence the club members have placed in me.

As we transitioned out of a historic pandemic, we managed to slog through some obstacles such as no meetings or shows, no elections, no circuits, increases in building rental, and a few deaths, including our long-time secretary/treasurer, Linda Snider. We have done so because many members have stepped up to fill some voids and other bumps in the road, for which I am most grateful.

In the process, we updated the constitution and appointed an archivist, which was very important, since many important documents were scattered in random places. We raised the dues, increased the club's percentage of auction sales, and reduced the circuits mailings to bi-monthly. These latter moves helped to move us out of a financial struggle that will hopefully give us more years of life. Our club finances were also assisted by some very generous philatelic donations which increased our bottom line.

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### Did you know?

The oldest post office in the world is the Sanquhar Post Office in Scotland, which has been in continuous operation since 1712. It is recognized by the Guinness World Records and is in the town of Sanquhar, in the Dumfries and Galloway region.

The second oldest working post office is located in Stockholm, Sweden (1720) and the third in Santiago, Chile (1772).

## President's Corner (continued)

So, I'd like to think that we survived some difficult times, and that the current executive committee is leaving the club in good hands.

Next year we'll see the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club, so we're looking forward to finding ways to commemorate that important event in our history.

I hope that your membership in the Utah Philatelic Society is rewarding and satisfying for you. Best wishes for a happy holiday season!



## Postage Stamps honoring the Wild West

The 1947 3¢ Pioneers entering Valley of the Great Salt Lake.

In February 1846 the Mormons left Nauvoo, Illinois, starting an epic march which was to take 17 months of severe hardship.

In this commemorative stamp, Brigham Young, leader of the Mormons, is shown speaking the famous words, "This is the Place!" as the wagon train enters the Salt Lake valley.

On Jan. 4, 1896, the territory was granted statehood as the State of Utah.

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## Member Spotlight



For Don Marr, coin collecting came first and stamps followed many years later. "I started collecting coins when I was about eight years old and have been doing it ever since," he says. "I have a complete set of regular pennies and Indian head pennies as well as obscure coins such as a three cent U.S. nickel."

"These days, I have about 90 stamp albums, and I focus on topics such as modes of transportation, fancy cancels and used cancels. I own some highly designed canceled stamps, including three or four that are famous or semi-famous stamps," he says.

Don was born and raised in Anaheim, Calif., in the "pre-Disneyland days," as he recalls it. "I remember Walt Disney himself came to town, with a one car parade, and a megaphone, and he shouted, 'I'm going to put Anaheim on the map!'" That was in 1952. Sure enough, Disney built and opened the Disneyland theme park in 1954.

Don played percussion instruments in his high school band at Anaheim High School. "We finished 4th place overall among all high schools in southern California when I was a senior in high school, which was an incredible feat," he says.

He graduated in 1961 and enrolled immediately at Fullerton Junior College. After two years, he applied to BYU in Utah and was accepted. "I drove a 1950 Plymouth all the way to Provo and got myself set up in the dorms," he says. In addition to his degree from BYU, Don also earned a M.Ed. degree in Education at Westminster College in Salt Lake and taught at Hillcrest High School and at West Jordan Junior High for a combined total of 30 years.

Don found the Utah Philatelic Society in an unusual way. He says, "I was downtown in Crossroads Mall, and I heard a booming voice – it was a baritone – although the person was only talking. It was Micheal Keene who was president at the time, and he was in the mall working on behalf of the club. His voice was spectacular. I introduced myself and tried to talk him into becoming a singer in our choir. He told me about the stamp club instead. That was in 1997, and I'm still here."

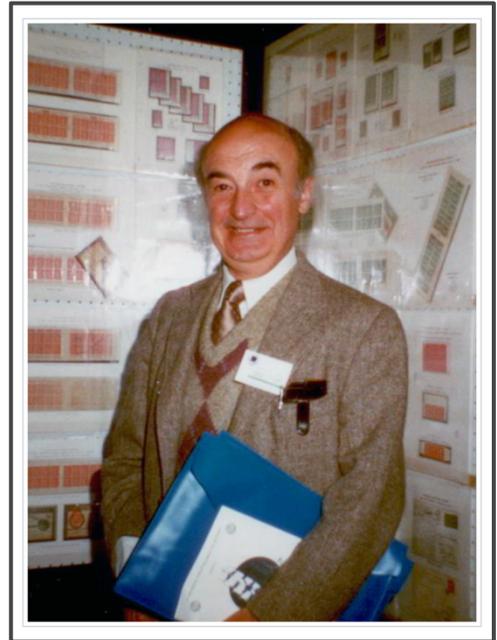
Don became president of the Utah Philatelic Society himself in 2010 and served through 2012. He is ever-present at club meetings and stamp shows.

Don and his wife, Nancy, have been married for 57 years and they have four children: two girls and two boys, plus 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

## “Phamous” Philatelists

This issue’s “famous” philatelist is author Raymond Gaillaguet. Born in France, Raymond Gaillaguet (1920-2011) and his late wife, Denise, immigrated to the United States after World War II. Ray had studied at the Sorbonne in Paris and served in the OSS during the war. Both he and Denise enjoyed philately and exhibited at local shows, nationals, and internationals. Ray won grands and major awards for his exhibits “Bordeaux: Birth of the Third Republic” and “Early Sower Issues.”

He served as president and treasurer of the Rhode Island Philatelic Society, president of the Philatelic Group of Boston, trustee of the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum, show chair of RIPEX, board member of France and Colonies Philatelic Society, and U.S. Commissioner to PhilaFrance 82, Bangkok 83, Ameripex 86, and PhilaFrance 89. He was an APS judge emeritus.



### 1918 Jenny Invert Sells for \$460,800

An unused United States 1918 Jenny Invert sold for \$460,800 in Kelleher Auctions’ Oct. 30, 2025, sale of the nearly complete collection of U.S. stamps formed by Laurence Peterson.

The total realization includes the 20 percent buyer’s premium that Kelleher adds to all lots sold. The hammer price was \$384,000.

The 1918 24¢ carmine and blue airmail stamp with the blue center inverted (Scott C3a), popularly known as the Jenny Invert, is the most famous U.S. stamp error.

The Jenny Invert in the Peterson collection is from position 1 in the discovery pane of 100 that was purchased May 14, 1918, for its \$24 face value in Washington, D.C.

As shown, the position 1 Jenny Invert has a wide selvage margin at left and a natural straight edge at top.

According to a brief biography of Peterson in the sale catalog, Peterson began collecting stamps as a teenager. After spending time focused on his family and work, he returned to the hobby in 1975.

The Peterson collection sale catalog is available for viewing and download on Kelleher’s website, [www.kelleherauctions.com](http://www.kelleherauctions.com).





## Utah Philatelic Society

Since 1946

*Established in 1946, it is the purpose of the Utah Philatelic Society to:*

- Encourage, create and develop greater interest and activity in the field of philately.
  - Assist members to build bigger and better collections by providing greater opportunities to obtain philatelic material.
- Formulate and put into effect programs designed to increase philatelic knowledge.
  - Cultivate and encourage tolerance, honesty, sportsmanship, generosity and good fellowship in all our associations.



### Club Meetings

Sons of Utah Pioneers Building  
3301 East Louise Avenue  
Millcreek, UT 84109

First and third Thursday of each month  
at 7 p.m.

Online: <http://www.utahphilatelic.org/>

### Club Officers

President: Steve Baldrige  
Vice-president: Craig Edwards  
Secretary: Judy Maxfield  
Treasurer: Dee Bird

Board Members: Rick Leimbach, Don Forbes,  
Vladimir Makarov, Rick Hendricks,  
Jack Paradise

Newsletter: Jim DeGooyer

### Appraisers & Vendors

Dave Blackhurst  
Buying stamps & coins  
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